

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3576

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS MX

SUBJ: VICENTE ZUNO ARCE STATEMENTS RE ZUNO KIDNAPPING.

REF: MEXICO 7375

1. EXCELSIOR'S ULTIMAS NOTICIAS AUGUST 29 HEADLINED (AND OTHER PAPERS REPORTED ON AUG. 30) STATEMENTS (CITED REFTEL) MADE IN GUADALAJARA BY SON OF KIDNAP VICTIM, VICENTE ZUNO ARCE, THAT KIDNAPPING OF ZUNO WAS "ACT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION" BECAUSE MEXICO IS "INFLECTED BY FOREIGN INTERESTS BORN IN IMPERIALISM AND PARTICULARLY IN U.S. IMPERIALISM". ZUNO ARCE CONTINUED THAT US POLICY WAS TO SPLINTER MEXICAN NATIONAL UNITY AND SAID THAT HIS FAMILY HAD ALWAYS STOOD AGAINST SUCH ACTION. HE ALSO CITED STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA MADE IN DIFFERENT CONTEXT THAT MEXICO SHOULD UNITE AGAINST FORCES OF IMPERIALISM.

2. SEGMENTS OF MEXICAN PRESS MISQUOTED AND CONFUSED THE RESPONSES BY AMBASSADOR JOVA TO REPORTERS' QUESTIONS ON ZUNO ARCE STATEMENT AND STATEMENT BY PPS LEADER JORGE CRUICKSHANK (MEXICO 7374). AMBASSADOR CHARACTERIZED STATEMENTS MADE BY REPORTERS IN FORMULATING BOTH QUESTIONS AS ILLOGICAL AND IMPERTINENT. CERTAIN PRESS INCORRECTLY IMPLIED THAT THOSE TWO ADJECTIVES REFLECTED AMBASSADOR'S OPINION OF ZUNO ARCE'S STATEMENT.

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3. PRESS SPOKESMAN FOR OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, FAUSTO ZAPATA LOREDO, WAS QUOTED IN PRESS AUGUST 30 AS SAYING THAT STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO ZUNO ARCE "DO NOT REPRESENT THE OPINION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT".

4. COMMENT: GOM DISASSOCIATION FROM ZUNO ARCE IS PROBABLY DUE TO ZUNO ARCE'S HAVING QUOTED PRESIDENT IN CONNECTION WITH HIS OWN STATEMENT. BUT FOR WHATEVER REASON, IT IS A WELCOME AND RARE PUTDOWN OF A XENOPHOBIC, ANTI-U.S. STATEMENT.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

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